

Price-Anderson Background and Overview

Stephen M. Sohinki

Director

Office of Price-Anderson Enforcement





Workshop Objectives

- ♦ Introduce Price-Anderson Amendments Act (PAAA) Rules and DOE Enforcement Program
- ♦ Communicate the Expectations for and Responsibilities of PAAA Coordinators
- Ensure Familiarity with Noncompliance Identification,
 Reporting and Corrective Action Expectations
- Provide a General Understanding of the Enforcement Process





Price-Anderson History

- Price-Anderson Act enacted in 1957 provided prompt compensation for a nuclear incident
 - Provided broad financial coverage for damage, injury, and costs of evacuation (up to statutory limit of \$9.43 billion per incident)
 - Required DOE to indemnify contractors





- ♦ Price-Anderson Amendment Act (1988) extended indemnification for 15 years and required DOE to establish and enforce nuclear safety rules
- ♦ Nuclear safety rules for radiological protection, quality assurance, safety basis and contractor employee protection have been issued by DOE





Price-Anderson Amendment Reauthorization

- Bob Stump National Defense Authorization Act extended current indemnification levels until December 31, 2004.
- It also required DOE to promulgate final rules by
 December 2003 to enforce Occupational Safety and
 Health requirements. 10 CFR 851 issued February 9, 2006.





- ♦ Ronald Reagan National Defense Authorization Act extended indemnification until December 2006
 - Proposal to repeal remission of Civil Penalties for not-for-profits deferred
 - Proposal to increase coverage to \$10 billion per incident deferred
 - All enforcement requirements were unchanged





♦ Energy Policy Act of 2005

- Indemnifies DOE contractors until December 2025
- Increases coverage to \$10 billion per incident, subject to adjustment for inflation.
- Repeals exemption from civil penalties for nonprofits upon signing of new contract. Civil penalties limited to total fees paid to contractor in year of violation.





Enforcement Philosophy

- ♦ Relationship with contractors different from NRC and OSHA arms-length relationship with regulated entities
 - Use of program as a tool to promote proactive contractor behavior resulting in safety performance improvement
- Emphasis on promoting contractor timely identification, reporting, and correction of noncompliances
 - Noncompliance Tracking System
 - Mitigation





Enforcement Process

- ♦ 10 CFR 820 and its Appendix A provide DOE Enforcement Program Procedures and Policy for nuclear safety, and 10 CFR 851 and its Appendix B for worker safety
- ♦ Flow diagram provides overview of enforcement process
- ♦ Identification of rule noncompliances by contractor (preferred) or DOE





Enforcement Process (cont'd)

- Disposition of noncompliances as reportable or internally tracked
- **♦ DOE** evaluation and investigation process
- Multiple potential outcomes
- Opportunities for discretion and mitigation or escalation





Importance of PAAA Coordinator Role

- Acts as focal point to promote effective communications with DOE and contractor on PAAA matters
- ♦ Ensures effective implementation/oversight of the identification, reporting and correction of noncompliances
- Monitors contractor compliance assurance program effectiveness – key role
- Maintains access to Senior Management
- ♦ Listing of DOE and Contractor Coordinator Responsibilities





Current OE Initiatives

- ♦ Transition from event-driven to assessment-driven complex
- **♦** Transition of EFCOG to INPO-like organization

